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PATENT  
Attorney Docket No. 6502.0063

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Application of: )  
Ann M. WOLLRATH et al. )  
Continuation Prosecution Application )  
of Serial No.: 08/950,760 )  
Filed: February 3, 2000 )  
For: REMOTE OBJECT ACTIVATION )  
IN A DISTRIBUTED SYSTEM )

Group Art Unit: 2755

Examiner: Y. Cherubin

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Prior to the examination of the above application, please amend this application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel claims 28-53, and add claims 54-69 as follows:

54. A method in a data processing system having a group of associated objects, the method comprising:  
receiving from a remote source a request to access one of the objects of the group of objects;  
determining whether the requested object is active;